

# EPA's Lower Manhattan Test and Clean Program

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

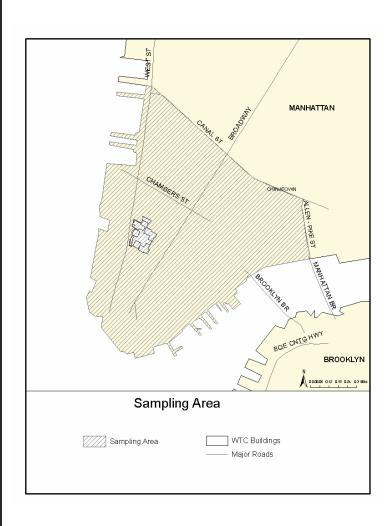
### PROGRAM SUMMARY

The World Trade Center collapse released dust and contaminants into the air and the dust settled in many Lower Manhattan buildings. In the months following September 11, many residences and businesses were professionally cleaned. In addition, EPA offered a voluntary clean and test program through which more than 4000 residences were cleaned and/or tested between September 2002 and June 2003. EPA is providing the current Test and Clean Program as a final phase in response to the events of September 11, 2001, to provide information to people with remaining concerns about the potential presence of dust from the collapse.

EPA will test dust in Lower Manhattan residential units and buildings for four contaminants - lead, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), asbestos and fibrous glass-like materials called man-made vitreous fibers (MMVF). In air, EPA will look for asbestos and MMVF only. These hazardous substances were found immediately after the WTC collapse at levels above those found in other parts of New York City and other urban areas. If these materials are found in an apartment or in the areas tested within a building, above established levels, EPA will offer to clean up that unit or area. EPA will evaluate HVACs and sample near HVAC outlets in building common areas. Analyses of common area sampling results could trigger HVAC cleanups.

### **ELIGIBLE AREA**

The program covers the area of Lower Manhattan south of Canal Street and west of Allen and Pike Streets.



The sampling plan and other information are available on EPA's Web site at:

www.epa.gov/wtc/testandclean

To register, call 1-888-747-7725



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### WHO's WHO?

The following personnel will be involved in the test and clean program.

- EPA's hotline operator will register you in the program, assign you a tracking number, and assist you in answering questions. 1 888-747-7725.
- A sampling contractor who will call you to set up an initial meeting. This contractor will schedule and conduct the testing of your home or building and will take samples.
- A cleaning contractor who will call you to schedule and conduct the cleanup of your home or building.
- Technical oversight staff from EPA will be reviewing the work of both contractors.

### **GETTING STARTED**

First, call the hotline to register. You will receive a packet of information. Included in that packet is a form to give consent for access to your space. Please fill it out and mail it back to the EPA using the envelope included. Once we have received your signed consent for access form and the attached fragile or valuable objects form, if applicable, and the registration period is closed, you will be contacted by the sampling contractor to set up an initial meeting. Please send in your access form immediately. A return envelope is provided in this package.

At the initial meeting, the sampling contractor will meet with you and assess conditions in the area to be sampled, including identifying any obvious sources of the contaminants for which they are sampling. They will describe sampling procedures, discuss any special concerns or needs including looking at any fragile or valuable objects that may need special care and answer questions you may have.

Scheduling of the sampling will be done over the phone after the initial visit.

Because dust may be disturbed during sampling procedures, residents with known allergies, asthma or other respiratory health concerns should contact their healthcare provider in advance to determine whether it is advisable to be present while testing is underway.